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Boston, Mass., June 21, 1898.
To Lick Observatory: (Received 4:30 p. m.)

Comet *g* 1898 (Giacobini) was observed at Nice, June 19.5079 G. M. T.; R. A. $20^h\ 26^m\ 40^s.8$; Decl. $-21^\circ\ 27'\ 6''$. The daily motion is $-2^\circ\ 52'$ in R. A. and $-20'$ in Decl.

(Signed) John Ritchie, Jr.

Boston, Mass., June 27, 1898.
To Lick Observatory: (Received 9:00 p. m.)

Elements and ephemeris* of Comet *g* 1898 (Giacobini) were computed by Professor Kreutz as follows:—

$$T = 1898,\ \text{July}\ 6.23\ \text{G. M. T.}$$

$$\left.\begin{array}{l} \omega = 7^\circ\ 36' \\ \Omega = 278\ \ 31 \\ i = 166\ \ 45 \end{array}\right\}\ \text{Ecliptic and Mean Equinox of 1898.0}$$

$$q = 1.5864$$

This is a rough approximation.

(Signed) John Ritchie, Jr.

Independent Discovery of Comet *c* 1898.

From a note in the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, No. 3500, it appears that Comet *c* 1898 (Coddington), discovered at the Lick Observatory on June 11th, was discovered independently in Bukarest, on June 14th, by Mr. W. Pauly. Clouds interfered before he was certain of the cometary nature of the object; and it was not until June 16th that he telegraphed his discovery to the Central Stelle, at Kiel. As Mr. Pauly does not receive the astronomical telegrams distributed from Kiel, he was not aware that his discovery had been anticipated, though the comet was observed at various European observatories on June 13th and 14th.

Conference of Astronomers and Physicists.

The conference of astronomers and physicists held at the dedication of the Yerkes Observatory in October, 1897, was so successful that it has been decided to hold a second meeting this year, the meeting-place to be the Harvard College Observatory. The days of meeting are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, August 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1898. These days were selected in order that visiting astronomers might attend the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science which will be held in Boston during the week beginning Monday, August 22d.

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* The ephemeris is here omitted.

According to Professor E. C. PICKERING'S circular letter, it is expected that numerous short papers will be presented informally, illustrated, when desired, by lantern slides, and fully discussed. The work of the various departments of the Harvard College Observatory will be shown, and excursions will be planned to various neighboring scientific institutions.

OBITUARY NOTICE.*

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS ROGERS, Professor of Physics and Astronomy in Colby University, Waterville, Maine, died at that place on March 1, 1898, after an illness of several weeks, brought on by a severe fall.

He was born at Waterford, Connecticut, on November 13, 1832, and graduated at Brown University in 1857. Soon afterwards he became Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy at Alfred University, in the State of New York. During his tenure of this office, he passed some time at the Observatory of Harvard College, and took part in its work under the direction of Professor BOND; and he was subsequently engaged for fourteen months in the naval service of the United States during the Civil War, which broke out in 1861. In 1870, after much success at Alfred University, both as a teacher and as an investigator, he returned to Harvard College Observatory, under the direction of Professor WINLOCK, and was soon placed in exclusive charge of the new meridian circle mounted in that year. With this instrument he undertook the observation of the zone from 49° 50′ to 55° 10′ north declination, as a part of the general revision of the *Durchmusterung*, proposed by the *Astronomische Gesellschaft.* The results of this work are published in Vols. XV, XVI, XXV, XXXV and XXXVI of the *Annals* of the Astronomical Observatory of Harvard College. Volumes X and XII of the same series contain the results of observations made in connection with the zone observations upon a selected list of stars in various declinations. Professor ROGERS also made a series of observations for determining the absolute positions of certain stars, the reduction of which he did not live to complete; but it is hoped that it can be finished in accordance with his intentions.

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* From *Astronomische Nachrichten*, No 3499.